के अन्तर्गत नए क्षेत्रों को शामिल किए जाने का कोई भी प्रस्ताव प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

श्री सभापति : प्रश्नों का समय समाप्त हुआ।

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Communal riots in the country

*141. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of incidents of communal riots in the country during the last three years, yearwise and Statewise;

(b) what is the number of persons killed and injured in these incidents, yearwise and Statewise; and

(c) what steps are being taken by the Central Government to curb such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) The required information is detailed in the Annexure [*See* Appendix CLI, Annexure No. 75]

(c) Material support in terms of para-military forces and equipment is provided to the State Governments as and when occasion arises or demands are made to assist them in effectively managing and controlling the riot situation on the ground. Further, the Central Government has circulated a set of guidelines to the State Governments to help them manage communal violence and restore and reinforce communal harmony. Among these are the guidelines for preventing and controlling communal violence, the guidelines for processions and for relief and rehabilitation measures.

2. Apart from above, from time to time, the National Integration Council has been deliberating on the long terms measures for strengthening secularism in our society. The report of the Standing Committee of the National Integration Council has been commended to the State Governments.

3. Lessons have been drawn from the recent riots e.g. the Meerut riots of 1987 and based upon those, a fresh set of guidelines was circulated to the State Governments on 26th February, 1988.

4. In view of the happenings in Punjab and other parts of the country, the question of prevention of missuse of religious institutions for political and illegal purposes as also in the context of separation of religion from politics, the need was felt to check this misuse immediately and accordingly the Religious Institutions (Prevention of Misuse) Ordinance, 1988 was promulgated on 26th May, 1988. Subsequently, a Bill to replace this Ordinance was introduced in the Monsoon Session of Parliament which was enacted on 2nd September, 1988.

Foreign exchange reserves

*142. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the position of foreign exchange reserves as on the 30th June, 1989; and

(b) what steps are proposed to be taken to further improve the balance of payments position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The foreign exchange reserve as on 30th June, 1989 stood at Rs. 6075 crores (excluding Gold & SDRs)

(b) Steps have been taken to reduce the trade deficit by initiating a number of measures to promote exports and curtail inessential imports. The Balance of Payment turn — around plan also aims at augmenting foreign exchange earnings through NRI Deposits/Bonds, additional direct / indirect investments and increased tourism receipts.

Dowry deaths in Delhi

*143. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

SHRI DEBA PRASAD RAY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the number of dowry deaths in Delhi during the first six months of 1989 and what were the corresponding figures during the last two years;

(b) what is the number of cases which were recommended for prosecution, how many complaints were registered and how many were not filed; and

(c) what effective steps have been taken to prevent such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c) The number of dowry deaths in Delhi during the first six months of 1989 is 47 as against 43 in the first six months of 1988 and 40 in the first six months of 1987.

47 cases were registered from 1.1.1989 to 30.6.1989 In 12 cases challans have been filed in courts.

The following steps have been taken to prevent dowry deaths:—

(i) Offences under the Dowry Prohibition Act have been made cognizable and attract more stringent punishment.

(ii) A new Section has been added in the Indian Penal Code making the offences of harassment and cruelty to women by their husbands and in-laws a cognizable offence.

(iii) New sub-sections 113-A and 113-B have been inserted in the Indian Evidence Act providing for presumption by a Court as to abetment of suicide/dowry death by a married woman if cruelty or harassment for dowry is proved.

(iv) Short-stay Home has been set up by the Delhi Administration for the use of women in distress.

(v) Special Magistrates have been detailed for recording dying declarations.

(vi) Public is being educated through the media about the evil of dowry.

(vii) Instructions have been issued to get postmortem examination conducted by two surgeons in dowry death cases.

(viii) A Special Cell for crime against women under the supervision of a woman Deputy Commissioner of Police has been set up.

राष्ट्रीय वस्त्र निगम (एन टी सी) की मिलों का आधुनिकीकरण संबंधी कार्यक्रम

*144. सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा : क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि राष्ट्रीय वस्त्र निगम ने अपनी कपड़ा मिलों को लाभ कमाने के आधार पर चलाये जाने के उद्देश्य से आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजनावधि के दौरान उनका आधुनिकीकरण करने के लिये 600 करोड़ रुपये की राशि दिये जाने का अनुरोध किया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने उक्त अनुरोध पर विचार किया है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा क्या निर्णय लिया गया है ?